IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-10, prior to examination on the merits as follows:

1. (Original) A binuclear, oxygen-bridged, bimetallic complex of the general formula I:

(I) $[(LM^1R^1)(Cp_2M^2R^2)](\mu\text{-}O)$

where:

M^1 = Al, Ge, Zr or Ti;

M^2 = Zr, Ti or Hf;

Cp= cyclopentadienyl;

R^1, R^2 = H; C(1-6)alkyl; halogen; aryl; $SiMe_3$ and alkylaryl where aryl = $C_6H_{5-n}X_n$

X = halogen, C(1-6)alkyl, aryl, NO_2, SO_3H, NR^3_2, where R^3 = C(1-6)alkyl or H and

n = 0 to 5; and

L = a bidentate, doubly heteroatom-coordinated organochemical ligand which together

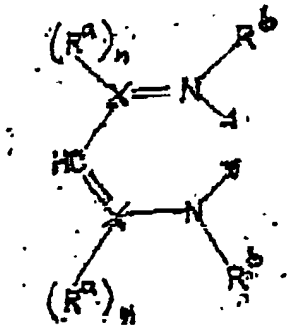
with the metal M^1 forms a 5- or 6-membered ring.

2. (Original) The binuclear, oxygen-bridged, bimetallic complex as claimed in claim 1, in which R^1, R^2 = methyl, ethyl, i-propyl, t-butyl, halogen, phenyl alkylphenyl, $SiMe_3$, and L is a bidentate, doubly nitrogen-coordinated organochemical ligand which together with the metal M^1 forms a 5- or 6-membered ring.

3. (Currently Amended) The bimetallic complex as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that it is a heterobimetallic complex, preferably one in which M^1 = aluminum and M^2 = zirconium, more preferably a complex of the formula [(LA1Me] $[Cp_2ZrR^2)]$ (-O), where R^2 is Me or Cl.

4. (Currently Amended) The bimetallic complex as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3,~~ claim 1, characterized in that the ligand L has the following composition (formula II):

(II) $R^b-\underline{N}=X(R^a)_n-HC=X(R^a)_n-\underline{N}-R^b$

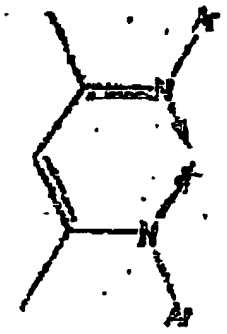


where: X = C or P;

R^a, R^b = R^1, R^s; n = 1 when X = C; n=- 2 when X = P.

5. (Original) The bimetallic complex as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the ligand L has the following composition:

$Ar-\underline{N}=C(CH_3)-HC=C(CH_3)-\underline{N}-Ar$,



in particular with Ar = $2,6\text{-}iPr_2C_6H_3$.

6. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a binuclear, oxygen-bridged, bimetallic

complex as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 5,~~ claim 1, characterized in that a precursor complex of the formula $LM^1R^1(OH)$ is reacted with a metallocene precursor complex $Cp_2M^2(R^2)_2$ or $Cp_2M^2MeR^2$ or Cp_2M^2HX, where x = halogen, preferably in an inert solvent.

7. (Currently Amended) A catalyst preparation for the polymerization of olefins which comprises at least one complex as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 5,~~ claim 1, and at least one cocatalyst.

8. (Original) The catalyst preparation as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the cocatalyst is an alkyl-aluminoxane, preferably methylaluminoxane (MAO).

9. (Currently Amended) The use of binuclear, oxygen-bridged, bimetallic complexes comprising a transition metallocene and an organic Al, Ge, Zr or Ti compound which does not contain a cyclopentadienyl group, in particular complexes as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 5,~~ claim 1, as polymerization catalysts.

10. (Original) The use as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that at least one heterobimetallic complex is used.

11. (Currently Amended) The use as claimed in claim 9 ~~or 10,~~ characterized in that the catalyst is used in combination with a cocatalyst of the [MeA1O]x type, trialkylaluminum or alkylhaloaluminum, in particular in combination with methylaluminoxane (MAO).